

Name _____

Soil Summary Webquest

20 pts

To access the websites necessary to answer the questions in this activity, follow the directions below:

1. Go to amosfc.wikispaces.com
2. Click on Environmental Science (left hand side of screen)
3. Click on "Helpful Websites"
4. Click on the appropriate website for each section

A. Grand Canyon National Park Service

1. The Grand Canyon National Park lies in which U.S. state? _____
2. What is the length of the Grand Canyon? _____ river miles
3. What is the minimum width of the Grand Canyon (Marble Canyon)? _____ feet
4. What is the average width of the Grand Canyon from rim to rim? _____ miles
5. What is the maximum width of the Grand Canyon from rim to rim? _____ miles
6. What is the average depth of the Grand Canyon? _____

B. Grand Canyon Facts and Figures

7. How long did the Grand Canyon take to form? _____
8. The river that created and runs through the Grand Canyon is the _____.
9. The Grand Canyon includes about _____ species of mammals and _____ species of birds.
10. The Grand Canyon includes about _____ species of reptiles and _____ species of amphibians.

C. The Dirt on Soil

First, click on the “Down and Dirty Icon.”

11. Explain the difference between soil and dirt.

12. Explain the difference between topsoil and subsoil.

Next, click on “A Recipe for Soil.”

13. Explain why there is no soil on Mars or Venus.

14. Explain physical weathering.

15. Explain chemical weathering.

Next, click on “Name that Soil.”

16. Rank the following soil particles from largest to smallest:
silt, gravel, sand, clay

(Largest) _____, _____, _____, _____ (Smallest)

17. Which type of soil (sand, silt, clay, or loam) is the best for plants and soil organisms? EXPLAIN your answer.

Now, click on the “Field Guide” Icon.

Choose 3 of the following organisms and write one fact you learned about each.

Amoeba, Bacteria, Beetle mite, Eastern mole, Nematode, Night crawler, Root fungus

18. Organism _____

Fact:

19. Organism _____

Fact:

20. Organism _____

Fact:

Once you have gotten this far, you can explore the site more. Try a game on the site by clicking on the “Soil Safari” icon. Follow the directions on the website. You are NOT to go to any other websites.